procedures in collection of blood and blood products.

IV. Collection of blood from voluntary donors is being encouraged.

Scheme for Prevention of Deafness

*180. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Science and Technology had started a prevention of deafness scheme in Delhi in 1988; if so, the details thereof and the results achieved so far, vis-a-vis the targets laid down; and

(b) whether similar schemes have been launched in the other States; if so, the details thereof and the results obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

However, the Department of Science and Technology has funded in 1986 a project entitled 'Feasibility study for development of a module for Primary and Secondary Prevention of Hearing Impairment in rural areas'. The study envisages prevention at three levels:

—Primary prevention in which healthy habits are being emphasised and unhealthy habits are being deleted by public education.

—Secondary prevention which involves giving of anti-microbial drugs and nose and ear drops to prevent children from getting hearing impaired.

—Tertiary prevention which involves surgery on selected children and giving hearing aid for rehabilitation. The study is in progress.

(b) This module is being tried out as a pilot project in Delhi and Trivandrum only.

1451. [Cancelled]

Manufacture of VCRs and VCPs

1452. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation is likely to manufacture VCRs, and VCPs in the near future;

(b) if so, by when the first lot is expected; and

(c) the likely cost of each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) has been asked to submit a Revised Composite application for manufacture of VCRs/VCPs. ET&T is yet to submit the proposal.

1453. [Transferred to the 28th November, 1988]

Hydro-Dynamic Test Facility at Visakhapatnam

1454. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hydro-Dynamic Test Facility Centre at Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) started functioning;

(b) if so, the details of the amount spent on that Centre during the last three years; and

(c) the amount allocated for the Naval Scientific Technological Laboratory (N.S.T.L.) during 1987-88 and 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The Hydro-Dynamic Test Facility comprising of high speed towing tank with required high speed carrigan wave generator, planner motion system and supporting facilities is being set up at Naval Science & Technological Laboratory, Visakhapatnam. This is in advance stage of completion.

(b) It is not in public interest to give the details of the amount spent.

(c) Laboratory-wise allocation are not generally disclosed because of the type and nature of work done in different laboratories.

Supply of Dry Ration to Army Staff

1455. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4374 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st September, 1988 and state:

(a) whether the supply of dry ration such as pulses and edible oil and meat to the ration card holders of Army staff by Army Ration Shop (DID) is still suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when the supply will be resumed; and

(c) whether it is a fact that army personnel (card holders) of Naval and Air Force are not supplied fresh items of ration viz; vegetables, eggs and meat etc. neither by D.I.D. nor through I.N.S. India; if so, the reasons therefor and remedial steps proposed to be taken to ensure the supply of these items to these consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Payment issues had perforce to be suspended due to the fact that the various State Co-operative Federations—which according to Governments's laid down policy were exclusively eligible for the supply of such items—were unable to fulfil their obligations in terms of their contracts. Efforts are, however, being made to overcome the shortage and payment issues will be resumed when the overall position improves.

(c) I.N.S. India has taken over the responsibility of issuing fresh rations on payment to Naval personnel in Delhi. The matter regarding supply of these items to card holders in the Air Force is yet to be finalised by Army Headquarters and Air Headquarters. Air Headquarters have, however, not received any representations regarding non-supply of these items to entitled Air Force personnel.

Clearance for the Vamsadhara Stage-II Project

1456. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given clearance to the Vamsadhara Stage-II project in Andhra Pradesh and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Vamsadhara Stage-II Project has not been cleared because the environmental issues have not been settled.

Launching of Satellite with Side Looking RADAR

1457. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Side Looking Radar is five times more sophisticated than the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite; and